2:Lewis E-5 (1943-1948) 1951 NU37 Tepoztlan NU37

slightly less than 10 per cent while the national figures are about 15 per cent. The fact that there are relatively few people in Tepoztlán between the ages from 20 to 30 reflects the high mortality rate in Tepoztlán during the years of the Revolution.

Another interesting difference is the much larger percentage of people over age 50 in Tepoztlán, 15.5 per cent for Tepoztlán as compared with 9.9 per cent for rural Mexico. In 1940 there were 95 individuals over age 70 and 39 individuals over 80. The longer age span in Tepoztlán is even more striking when compared with a Tarascan village like Tzintzuntzan, where only one person over 80 was reported.[26] I believe this is related to the relatively higher standard of living in Tepoztlán and to its healthful climate.

BIRTH AND MORTALITY RATES

The birth rates and death rates are shown in Tables 6 and 7.

TABLE 6. Birth Rate, from 1930 to 1940.

Year	Births per 1,000 Inhabitants
1930	43.8
1931	61.9
1932	64.8
1933	61.6
1934	54.7
1935	58.1
1936	37.2
1937	47.3
1938	41.5
1939	47.8
1940	41.3

TABLE 7. Mortality Rate, from 1930 to 1940.*

Year	Total Deaths	Mortality by Age		Infant Mortality (Deaths per 1,000 Live Births)	General Mortality
		Less than 1 year	More than 1 year		
1930	105	41	64	198.1	22.2
1931	132	40	92	134.7	27.1
1932	81	21	60	64.8	16.2
1933	133	27	106	85.4	25.9
1934	97	25	72	86.8	18.4
1935	89	23	66	83.3	16.5
1936	71	21	50	101.9	12.8
1937	88	22	66	82.1	15.5
1938	66	15	53	62.2	11.7
1939	130	18	112	64.5	21.9
1940	85	15	70	59.8	14.0

* Based on data from the Departamento de Estadística, Mexico, D.F.

It can be seen from Table 6 that the average birth rate for the eleven-year period from 1930 to 1940, inclusive, was 55.1 per cent. This is considerably higher

[26] See George M. Foster, *Empire's Children: The People of Tzintzuntzan* (México: Imprenta Nuevo Mundo, 1948), p. 29.

2;Lewis E-5 (1943-1948)1951 NU37 Tepoztlan NU37

163 [127] than the national average of 48.6 for the same period. It should be noted, however, that the birth rate varies considerably from year to year. The data in Tables 6 and 7 were obtained from the Federal Department of Statistics in Mexico City, which in turn gets its data from the municipal registry in Tepoztlán. To check on the reliability of these data I examined the local registry for the five-year period from 1939 to 1943. I found that not all births are recorded, and that many births are recorded years after the event. For example, three births which had taken place in 1926 were included in the record for 1941. Out of 284 births recorded in the register of 1939, 45 were born in other years; 42 out of 251 in 1940; 63 out of 245 in 1941; 68 out of 299 in 1942; and 64 out of 245 in 1943. In other words, of 1,324 births recorded during this five-year period, 282 were not born in the year in which they were recorded. It should be noted, however, that most of the cases were only one year late. And the fact that the procedure of including births from other years is a regular one tends to reduce the margin of error. Thus, while these statistics leave much to be desired, they do indicate general trends.

165 The average rate of infant mortality for the eleven-year period 1930 to 1940, inclusive, was 102.3 and the general mortality for the same period was 20.2. While both figures are high when compared with death rates in rural areas in the United States, it must be noted that they are considerably lower than the figures for the state of Morelos as a whole, for which the comparable figures were 133.6 and 30.2, respectively. The general mortality rates for the 31 municipios of the state of Morelos shows the municipio of Tepoztlán to be in the lowest quartile, third from the bottom, again indicating the relatively healthful location of the village. Furthermore, the infant mortality rate for Tepoztlán was also lower than for rural México, which was 121 for the five-year period 1939 to 1943, inclusive.[37]

The mortality figures, like the birth figures, show a marked variation from year to year. However, the general trend for Tepoztlán was toward a sharp lowering of the mortality rate, especially in the case of infant mortality, witness the drop from 198.1 of 1930 to 59.8 in 1940. How can we explain this trend?

165 744 [73] [164] Probably the most important factor in the decrease of the infant mortality rate has been the increase in and greater availability of medical services. Tepoztlán has received a good deal of attention from the Mexican Department of Health, which has carried out a fairly intensive program of inoculation. While the health officials have not succeeded in eliminating the sources of infection and epidemics in the village—witness the serious typhoid epidemic in 1940, and the measles epidemic of 1947 which killed off many children—they have taken energetic measures to control the epidemics.

165 759 Since 1930 there have been doctors residing temporarily in Tepoztlán for short periods.[38] There have been at least two *pasantes* (graduate medical students) who,

[37] Whetten, *Rural Mexico*, p. 328.

[38] From the doctors' reports on file at the Department of Health in Mexico City, it appears that rheumatism is the most frequent disease and accounted for 50 per cent of all illnesses treated. Next in frequency was benign goiter, followed by tuberculosis and enteritis.

2:Lewis E-5 (1943-1948) 1951 NU37 Tepoztlan NU37

sidies from the church of Mexico. Rather, it makes substantial contributions to the national church of Mexico.

The church of Tepoztlán includes the seven villages of the municipio and controls fourteen village and barrio chapels. This is illustrated in Chart 4.

Summarizing the total personnel of the church of the municipio of Tepoztlán we find the following:

Functionary	*Number*
Priest of the parish	1
Sexton	1
Cantor	1
Mayordomos of the barrios	7
Mayordomos of the villages	7
Monjas Carmelitas	8
Rezanderos	10
Limosneros	42
Mayordomos of the images	28
Mayordomos of peregrinations	15
Functionaries in charge of cleaning the chapels and the temple	37
Total	157

CHURCH FINANCES

As has been pointed out earlier, the church in Tepoztlán not only supports itself but also sends contributions to the bishop in Cuernavaca. It is difficult to do more than approximate the annual income of the church because of variation in contributions from year to year. Records of church income were not available to us and probably were not kept. However, we have more or less accurate data on the most important sources of income. In the following pages we will present a conservative estimate of this income.

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, AND FUNERALS

Our data indicate an average of 273 live births in the municipio over a six-year period. There are two classes of baptism, one a simple type at three pesos and the other with the ringing of the bells at four pesos. Assuming that the number of baptisms is about equally divided between these two types, we get a total annual income from baptisms of 956 pesos.

The charge for the *sacamisa* (the Mass said for a mother forty days after the birth of a child) is two pesos if said from the *cancel* and one peso if said from the altar. Again assuming about an equal number of each type, we have a yearly income of 408 pesos.

The priest charges twelve pesos for a simple marriage ceremony and twenty to twenty-five pesos for a more elaborate wedding. It is difficult to determine exactly how many weddings are simple and how many are elaborate. It is our im-